

**Saturday Gazette.**

**Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.**

Wm. F. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.  
CHAS. E. DAVIS, Associate Editor.

Our Principal Office is next door to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

**The Saturday Gazette.**

BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR,  
BELLEVILLE, CALDWELL AND VERONA.

An independent weekly journal of LITERATURE, EDUCATION, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS AND LOCAL INTERESTS.

All public and local questions, including political and social, sanitary and reformatory, educational and industrial topics will be clearly presented and fully and fairly discussed.

It is intended and expected to make it not only readable and interesting to the general reader, but of special value to citizens of the county and of real importance to every resident of Bloomfield, Montclair, Caldwell, Belleville and Verona.

Nothing will be admitted to its columns that is unworthy of cordial welcome to every family circle.

Settled Clergymen in the county and all Public School Teachers in the county will receive the paper gratuitously by sending their address.

To ADVERTISERS it should prove a valuable medium. Our circulation extends to every part of Essex county, and considerably elsewhere.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS will be received and forwarded by the Postmaster, also at our office in Bloomfield, or may be addressed by mail, to Wm. F. LYON, Editor, and Proprietor, Bloomfield, N. J.

1776

4th JULY.

1874.

THE ORIGINAL AMERICAN PLAT-FORM.

FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

JULY 4th, 1776.

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect for the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."

"We hold these truths to be self-evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former system of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states."

This Declaration of principles and sentiments is then followed by a strong Bill of Indictment against George the Third, King of Great Britain, solemnly charging him, under twenty-seven distinct specifications, of outrages such as no people with any pretensions to liberty and manhood could be justified in submitting to; and a complaint and warning against the British people, painfully concluding with the following sentence:

"We must therefore acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war—in peace, friends."

This immortal document closes with the following declaration of the high purpose, firm resolve, and holy trust which gave birth and vigor to our favored country:

"We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Among the fifty-six intrepid signers of this bold and determined Platform the five immortal names from our own State will ever be cherished by every true Jerseyman.

They are—RICHARD STOCKTON, JOHN WITHERSPON, FRANCIS HOPKINSON, JOHN HART, ABRAHAM CLARK.

Our country then embraced only 1

thirteen original patriotic States, poorly developed, with a population of only three million souls. During the century now nearly closed, it will have expanded in number of States to thirty-nine, three times the original number and area, and have swelled in population to nearly forty-five millions.

Its agricultural, manufacturing and commercial industries have developed marvelously; and its wealth has increased in proportion.

But the enlargement of territory, the multiplication of States, the enormous increase of population, and the augmentation of wealth, were not the objects for which our forefathers abandoned their homes, country and friends; such motives could not have reconciled them to the trials and privations, exposures and sufferings of a pioneer life, and to the bloody sacrifices in a long and unequal struggle with the martial hosts of despotic power.

Their pursuit was happiness, with the unalienable rights of life and liberty. They intensely desired and inexorably demanded a government of their own choosing, with equal rights and privileges, legally secured, and impartially administered. The rectitude of their intentions justified their reliance on Divine Providence, and their mutual pledge to each other of life, fortune and honor, not only vindicated their sincerity, but also made them valiant and irrepressible.

They came out of the long war victors. Peace and independence were conquered and were assured.

Now it is well for us to consider what was accomplished. Other nations have been embroiled in wars, have fought and bled, and have conquered a peace. Italy did so, so did Germany. But how different the liberty of those peoples, from that which our citizens enjoy.

According to the American standard the elective franchise (or right of voting) is the first test of the liberty of the people. It is that which constitutes the citizen, identifying him with his government in voice and heart. Free speech and a free press, form another test of liberty. They unfetter the mind, ennoble the subject, and justify the mutual confidence of Ruler and citizen.

Now if these tests be applied, and the comparison be made between, even the two countries above named and the United States, and how resplendent do our liberties shine!

In Italy, notwithstanding the large liberty that nation enjoys in many respects, the right to vote has by no means as yet been granted to the people. We have good authority for saying that there are members of the Chamber of Deputies at whose election not more than twenty or thirty votes in all were cast! The so-called popular elections are little more than hollow shams. In her most recent electoral lists only 528,933 names were written in a population of nearly 27,000,000! Which is less than two per cent of the population. Contrast this with the suffrage in our country. In the United States, with a population of 40,000,000, the actual vote polled in the general election of 1872 was 6,431,237, which fell far below the number of those who had the right to vote but who, from one cause and another, could not or did not exercise it. Making due allowance for the infirm, the sick, the absent, the indifferent and we suppose the percentage of those enjoying the right of suffrage in this country to be at least FIFTY TIMES GREATER than in Italy. The comparison of freedom of speech would doubtless exhibit a more favorable aspect still for this country.

Without having data in respect to Germany and other countries at our command just now, we conclude that none of the countries of Continental Europe can make any just pretensions to rights of speech and of suffrage at all comparable to that enjoyed by every citizen in this favored land. The following paragraph recently dispatched by cable is apposite to our argument:

"Liberty of speech is not one of the blessings now enjoyed by Germany. A sentence of imprisonment for a year and a half has been passed upon a Deputy, Herr Moser, for certain speeches delivered by him at some meeting of working men. The most serious charge made against him was that he had denounced a standing army."

This priceless boon of liberty and equal rights have been inherited from a noble ancestry, and if we mean to hand this rich legacy down to future generations, we must teach its value to our children and see that they understand and cherish it as a gift from heaven, entrusted to our keeping for the benefit of the human race, and more precious than life itself.

BRAZIL.—Brazil is rapidly taking the lead of all the States in South America. The country is full of engineers, manufacturers, agriculturists, merchants and travelers, drawn thither by the manifold attractions offered to them in their respective spheres by the enterprise of the sovereign and a sympathizing nation. In all geographical and topographical publications Brazil is a standing theme, and new works from the pens of industrial and scientific men are continually leaving the press in various parts of the world. The empire is approaching political consolidation with great rapidity, and the national funds are regularly quoted on the London exchange.

Exports and imports are increasing in a surprising manner, and the attention of both Europe and America is being directed to an increased degree to this land, so highly gifted by nature. The greatest blot on the current history of the nation, in the form of human slavery, is destined soon to be removed, by the active intervention of the Emperor for its total abolition.



**FOURTH JULY ITEMS.**

There is to be a formal celebration of the Fourth at Hackensack, Rev. Dr. Bartine is to deliver the Oration.

THE GREAT BRIDGE—over the Mississippi at the St. Louis is to be formally opened to day great pieces of fire works it is said, from three to four hundred feet long, will go off. They are to contain "designs representing Washington, Missouri and Illinois shaking hands, flanked with the coat of arms of each State."

The East Orange Library Association have completed their arrangements for the celebration of our National Holidays. A band of music have been engaged and will perform selections of music at the Junction, beginning at 2 o'clock P. M., and lasting one hour. At 3 P. M., the following exercises will take place at the Library rooms, National Hall, corner Main and Grove streets.

National Aims.....Military Band Prayer.....Rev. J. L. Danner Reading of a portion of the Declaration of Independence.....Prof. C. M. Davis Music.....Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake Music.....Band Benediction.....Rev. W. D. Hedden After the above exercises the band will give a concert until 6 P. M.

Verona has a celebration on the Fourth as mentioned in our last week's issue.

For the Saturday Gazette.

**NEGLECTED.**

Messrs Editors:—I beg a small space in your columns to call the attention of the public to my melancholy fate. It is hard in one's old age to be deserted by his friends and handed over to the neglect and contumely of an unappreciative public.

Many years ago I was very popular—children looked forward to my coming with joyful anticipation and those more advanced in life were glad at my appearing. But now the ladies are nervous and request me to be silent—the men whisper of Portland and Chicago, and high rate of insurance, and even the children cast me aside for more recently formed acquaintances. And sirs, what are we coming to? Where will flee our boasted civilization? The Eagle from her mountain peak cries beware! The effete despots of Europe are looking with joy to see my fall! Independence day will dawn in vain when I am gone.

Speak out, Messrs Editors and save us from the overhanging fate and receive the thanks of your old friend, through fire

C. R. ACKER.

This is the 19th birth-day of Miss Nellie Grant, now Mrs. Sartoris.

**OUR CHURCHES LAST SUNDAY.**

The Rev. D. D.'s on Fremont and Franklin Streets, Bloomfield, exchanged pulpits on Sunday morning last, Rev. Dr. Kenne officiating in the Baptist Church and Rev. Dr. Stubbett in the Methodist.

Rev. Dr. Stubbett has a programme of six sermons for Sunday evenings in the Baptist church, on "Foot Prints of Jesus," (1) In Bethlehem; (2) In the Temple in his Infancy; (3) In Galilee in His Childhood; (4) In the Temple among the Learned; (5) In Nazareth; (6) In the waters of the Jordan. The first two have been delivered, the third will be given on the 5th inst. to be followed in order by the others on successive Sunday evenings.

In Bloomfield on Sunday morning Rev. Mr. Mudge of Yonkers, N. Y., preached on Rev. v. 9, presenting Christ as the only solution of the mystery of life, and the only hope of man's redemption, exaltation and blessedness. It was a fine sermon abounding in eloquent passages and presenting the most encouraging hopes for the disciple of Jesus. He also preached in the evening.

The Children's Day at the Methodist church in Bloomfield last Sunday was of unusual interest. A visitor, an intelligent Sunday School man, who was there in the morning, speaks of Rev. Mr. Freeman's address as the best thing of the kind he had ever heard. He also preached in the evening. Rev. Mr. Smith, of Montclair preached in the afternoon.

The church was elaborately decorated with flowers. It was a very enjoyable time to that congregation and to all connected with the Sunday School.

Rev. Dr. Campbell, President of Rutgers College, preached last Sunday morning in Dr. Berry's Church, Montclair. His text was John III. 3—*Except ye be born again ye cannot enter the kingdom of God.* A full house enjoyed the pleasure of listening to one of the most simple, clear, succinct, and impressive statements of the very essence and substance of the Christian doctrine of regeneration that was ever delivered, we fancy, in an extemporaneous sermon of 35 minutes length. Faultless in its rhetoric, exact in its logic and forcible in its delivery, it was evident from the breathless attention of his congregation that they were both delighted and edified.

The Rev. Doctor and President also preached in the evening, by appointment, before the High School and in the presence of a large representation of all the churches of Montclair. His discourse was a lucid exposition of Psalm xix. 6—*The law of*

the Lord is perfect converting the soul. His eloquent sentences, chaste oratory and energetic manner transfused his audience with his own convictions and could not fail to animate those ambitious students with noble and holy purposes.

Rev. Dr. Whitney, Pres. of the new Institute at Hackensack, preached on Sabbath morning last in the Methodist church here.

There is some talk of the organization of a Baptist Society in this town.

**HOME MATTERS.**

**BLOOMFIELD.**

**WEATHER CHRONICLE.**

Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre.  
June 25 36 37 38 39 30 July 1  
At 6 A. M. 68° 74° 67° 74° 77° 78° 63°  
At Noon 91° 95° 80° 90° 102 88° 85°  
At 9 P. M. 74° 68° 65° 79° 78° 70° 66°

Monday, the 29th July, the hottest day in 50 years past, except one day in 1856.

**CENTRAL UNION PUBLIC SCHOOL, BLOOMFIELD.**

After a two weeks examination, the closing exercises of the Grammar and High school department, as we announced last week in the GAZETTE, took place on Tuesday afternoon. As the Trustees had given no official invitation to the public, there is no wonder that the President of the Board should express his surprise at the large audience assembled, which is attributable, no doubt, to our voluntary notice, and to the private invitations of the pupils themselves.

The printed programmes, for some unknown cause, not having been distributed, the Principal of the school, as director of the exhibition, had to announce the performances from a manuscript in his hand. This must explain omissions and imperfections of our report.

The exercises comprised (in the omission of a public prayer), a mental, but no doubt heartfelt prayer from all clergymen and Christians present, to Almighty God for his benedictions upon the institution, the trustees, teachers, pupils, and their parents; excellent vocal music, with accompaniment; declamations, readings, dialogues, recitations, by the pupils. The performances were of various merit, though all deserve credit. If we were to particularize, it would be to award special merit to Master Samuel Miller who acquitted himself admirably in a difficult colloquy, and to Miss Collins who read with articulate clearness and fine expression.

The singing in this school is a notable and praiseworthy feature. Prof. Marshall, the instructor, gave an exhibition of his method, which demonstrated its excellence and his efficiency as a teacher.

The promotions were announced by the principal, but were too numerous for us to repeat them here.

Mr. E. W. Page, the President of the Board of Trustees, made an address in which he contrasted the present advantages of the public schools with the former, and old-time opportunities of children.

We listened in vain for the announcement of those who deserved special mention for studiousness, attainments, or worthy deportment. If our trustees doubt the expediency of distinguishing the diligent and the worthy, they may have good reasons; but our experience and convictions are in its favor.

The occasion was a very pleasant and enjoyable one.

The vacation will extend to the latter part of August. And if we are rightly informed Mr. Stackpole does not expect to return.

**MONTCLAIR.**

**MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

EXAMINATION.—For a week the various classes of this school had been under going their annual examination according to the printed schedule circulated through the community. It is said by those who witnessed it to have been judicious and thorough, and, in its results, highly satisfactory. One section of the High School, numbering three youth preparing for College, was sent to New Haven to be examined by the Professors of Yale College, which institution they intended to enter in the Fall, if they could stand that severe test. Having passed the trial well, they returned Saturday night with the gratifying intelligence of their acceptance; an event of great credit to their accomplished instructors as well as to themselves; and an occasion of just pride, not to the families of these students alone, but to the town which has established and fostered a school of this high character. The result vindicates the wisdom and liberality of our citizens, by this demonstration of the capacity and efficiency of their Public School, under its present able Management.

AFTER DINNER, THE DESERT.—Wednesday was the great festival day of the week. In the morning the Primary and Grammar Departments had their "closing exercises" at the school in presence of a considerable audience of interested and gratified parents and friends. Among the visitors we noticed Rev. Mr. Maxwell, Rev. Dr. Berry, Prof. C. M. Davis, county superintendent of schools, and C. Peloubet, the veteran School Trustee of Bloomfield.

The Recitations, Declamations and Readings in these departments, were very fine—the articulation was generally excellent and the pupils indicated an unusual understanding of the authors meaning. The recitation of "the charcoal man" by a lad seven or eight years, we have hardly known excelled by professed elocutionists. Some prizes awarded in the Primary were distributed by Mr. J. H. Richards.

We were unable to get notes of the Grammar department which we are informed were highly creditable to all.

Mr. Gross, Principal of the school made HONORABLE MENTION of a large number of pupils, a list of whose names he presented to the Trustees, as a just tribute to their punctuality of attendance. Mr. Wm. Jacobus, of the board of trustees responded in a happy address on the value of that trait of character. Mr. Thos. Porter, trustee, also made an impressive address, and distributed the prizes.

GRADUATING EXERCISES.—Wednesday evening was the grand finale of this literary and academic season for Montclair at the Congregational church. A full house included the wealth and intelligence of our village. As the academic procession entered headed by the Trustees, Clergymen and distinguished visitors, the band struck up. When all were seated and the aisles filled, many being compelled to stand, the following programme was enacted in successive detail.

**ORDER OF EXERCISES.**

Prayer, Overture—"Mazaello".....Orchestra. Latin Salutatory.....Frederick Van Lennep The Angel in the Marble.....Dr. Seymour. Non Omnis Moriar.....Beatie K. Francis. Serenade—Solo, French Horn.....Mr. Nickel. Charles Sumner.....Edwin A. Rayner. Trifles Make Perfection.....Lizzie C. Meade. Natural Resources of N. J. Jos. W. Spaulding. Selection—"Crispino".....Orchestra. Madame De Stael.....Carrie B. Dwyer. Glaciers.....Frank C. Gobie. Just Appreciation of Time and Talents.....Lizzie L. Cliftenden. Les Fauvettes—Solo for two Piccolos.....Messrs. Goode & Eben. The Living Dead and the Dead Living.....Kath C. Draper. Crystals.....Ella S. Tichenor. Laws of Solon and Lycurgus.....Clarence K. Hedden. Lied—"When the Swallows Homeward Fly".....Orchestra. Sacrifice, with Voluntary Address.....Ida L. Wilcox. Conferring of Diplomas. Address by Geo. H. Francis, Esq. President of the Board of Trustees. Singing of the Class Ode. Auld Lang Syne.....By the School. Selection—"Le Perichole".....Orchestra.

Fred. Van Lennep of Montclair, Edwin A. Rayner, of Bloomfield and Clarence E. Hedden of Verona, distinguish themselves not only by the part they took in the exercise of the evening, but as having successfully passed the ordeal of a two days rigid examination for admission to Yale College.

We made special note of each performance but conclude not to particularize as all were in the highest degree praiseworthy.

The class consisted of thirteen, of age from sixteen to eighteen, as we should judge, eight being young ladies and five young gentlemen.

Their address was pleasing. Modest, self possessed; manners easy and graceful; composition of their pieces generally naïf, indicative of much thought and careful preparation, and the delivery excellent with clear articulation.

We could not but think what a work the Principal of this school has wrought during the years these pupils have been under his educational care. He needs the qualities of a general, the conscious responsibility of an accountable steward, the administrative ability of a President, &c. In fact he needs to be a wonderful man, which Mr. Gross has proved himself to be.

**THE ADDRESS OF MR. FRANCIS.**

Class of 74! I congratulate you upon having completed your course in the Montclair High School.

I congratulate you upon the privileges which you have enjoyed and upon the good you have made of these privileges.

This district has been liberal in furnishing the means for giving to all, the foundation of a good education.

Let me impress upon each one of you to build on that foundation, a superstructure of science, such as will make you a blessing to any community in which your lot may be cast.

You have been favored with able and faithful teachers, who have been constant in their duties in season and out of season, inspired by that professional love which always grows the more ardent when bestowed upon minds as responsive as yours have been to its instructions.

You number 13, just the number of the original states of the Republic, which now stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific. May your future influence be more widespread, limited by no boundaries of Country or Continent, and always for the good of humanity. In this hope we now bid our 18 stars go forth and give their light to the world.

We are much gratified that three of you have passed a satisfactory examination and have been admitted at Yale College. The people of Montclair may well feel proud of this proof of the solid work which is being done at our school.

You are now being addressed by the last May as pupils of the Montclair School. May the memory of the years which you have passed here, prove a talisman to each of you, keeping you unwearied by evil influences and helping you to walk in the way which leadeth to glory and true honor.

In the name of the Principal and Trustee, I now present you with your Diplomas as graduates of the Montclair High School of the class of 74.

**AND NOW ONE WORD TO OUR FRIENDS AS TO THE FUTURE OF THIS HIGH SCHOOL.**

It is to have a future! There is as good talent left in this school as any that has just now graduated from it. If the High School is permitted to go on in the course which it has pursued of late years, it will number at the commencement of the Fall term some 60 pupils. Will you allow these scholars because they have accomplished the Elementary branches; reading, writing and arithmetic, to be turned from the doors of this institution? I think that common prudence and sagacity forbid such a policy.

This is not the time to go into the discussion of this subject, but I would remind you this evening that one month from now the question will be put to the voters in this district whether they will continue this school upon its present high standard or let it down to the former level, as a common Grammar and Primary school only, and turn from its doors the sixty pupils who are now seeking to continue their education on the higher plane which has been attained by those who have just graduated.

My dear graduates, excuse me for taking so much of your time. I know that your hearts are with me in wishing a long life to our school, in all its branches.

**CLASS ODE.**

By CARRIE S. DORRIS.

Adieu! Good Bye!

One moment, stay thy course, O Time, Nor speed thee in thy flight: The visions of our youthful prime Thous takest from our sight.

In youth our buoyant hopes are strong, We dream of brighter years, And e'en this parting cannot long Bedim our eyes with tears.

Kind Teachers, Schoolmates, fare ye well, To you our love still clings, But we must go where duty calls, Though grief to us may bring.

Though here again we meet no more, Though now we say farewell, Still will the Class of Seventy-four, In hallowed memory dwell.

Our Father, keep us pure in heart, Let love our spirit rule, And help us now, as here we part To enter life's great school.

And now we give the parting grasp, And pledge our love anew: And we will strive to meet at last, Brothers and Sisters true.

**LETTER FROM E. F. CLARK, ESQ.**

To the Editors of the SATURDAY GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN: You say in your issue of June 27th that "Mr. Clark—meaning myself—is straying himself with the antagonists of the Montclair Railway Company," &c.

Now, this statement is not true, and I presume that you will be willing to correct it and to publish the facts of the case. If I give them.

In 1869, I sold to the Montclair Railway Company the right of way and land desired for depot purposes at Watchung for one third of its real value.

That Company, as a consideration and inducement to me to sell the same on those terms executed a contract with me signed by J. H. Pratt, President, and witnessed by H. C. Spaulding, agreeing, among other things, "to run 4 trains each way per day from Watchung to the Hudson River."

To erect a depot and freight house at their own expense, etc., and to commence running the trains on a certain day.

The contract was full and complete in all respects, and was made with an intention on my part that it should be fulfilled in all reasonable respects by both of the contracting parties.

I extended the time for the road to commence operations, once or twice, and for a year and more I never required an exact fulfillment of its terms and conditions, but only the essential ones.

The road commenced running on the 1st day of January, 1873, and ran regularly and irregularly until it ceased running altogether on the 31st day of March, 1874.

After waiting some 3 months for a performance of the terms of my contract by that Company, and after making every effort to induce them to run the trains as agreed with me, and being unable to obtain any assurance that the said road would ever run except as it pleased those temporary in possession thereof, I took possession of the land which I had sold them with the improvements made thereon, consisting of the track and depot house, which I had caused to be built without the cost of a cent to the Company, and I now retain the same.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I want that Railroad Company to resume business. I am not antagonistic to its interests nor to that of the public.

I am determined to do all in my power to see that it does run as agreed originally with me, and when that agreement is carried out the public will be accommodated and satisfied.

"The teachers and the school officers of the county: That I felt the action the trustees were taking would widen the distance, which was already too great, between the teacher and school officers, and the teachers be made to feel more forcibly than ever that there must be no freedom of discussion by them on question pertaining to the interest and welfare of the public schools, a condition which had already been so pointedly made as to be oppressive to many: And that the teachers' association was not a legislative body, and the passage of a resolution by it was not enacting a law, but merely giving expression to an opinion which was undoubtedly harmless, and certainly was a proper and competent thing for them to do; and I therefore looked upon the action of the Trustees as wholly unnecessary."

In all I said at the meeting of the trustees I endeavored to oppose the passage of their resolution as strongly as an outsider, having a right to speak at all only by the courtesy of the convention, could do.

I felt that whilst the resolution passed by the trustees was not in itself objectionable, yet the animus which prompted their action was offensive and justly deserved proper resentment. The animus was made clear by the gentleman who introduced the discussion before the Trustees when he said "that his reason for doing so was not because he deemed the action of the teacher's association, of much importance, being composed mainly of young and irresponsible school m'ams, but because they deserved a rebuke for passing such a resolution as they had done."

Whilst I do not deem it expedient to repeat the law forbidding corporal punishment in the public schools of this state, I still maintain that it was a proper subject for discussion by the teachers, and that they ought to have guaranteed to them a right to do so, without "rebuke" from any one, even if he does look down upon teachers as of little account. I trust moreover that the teachers threw down "gauntlet," but that their action was frank and modest, and was solely induced by a desire to increase the efficiency of our public schools, and I cannot but look upon the action of the trustees, and its animus, as unwise, unnecessary, and unjust.

J. B. BAKER.

**GERMAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, BLOOMFIELD.**

COMMENCEMENT.—The first annual commencement of this promising institution took place last week. The large Presbyterian church was well filled by an interested audience. On the platform were the President of the Institution, Rev. Dr. C. E. Knox, Prof. Rev. Dr. Siebert, and several other clergymen. The graduating class comprised eight young men of ages varying probably from 20 to 30 who had spent four years in this School completing a thorough course in all the branches designed to fit them for entering upon their practical life work of evangelism among the German population of our country.

A more intelligent and manly looking company of young men will rarely be found.

Each one had prepared an address for the occasion. As their